

STAT

Approved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000700020015-0

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DDI-2444-74


ER-74-4604

16 August 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
SUBJECT : FBIS White Book

David Kraslow, formerly managing editor of the *Washington Star*, now chief of Cox Newspapers Washington bureau, called yesterday about discontinuance of the FBIS white book. He said he had just become aware the white book was no longer being produced and circulated to newsmen, and he wanted us to know he greatly missed it.

He said the fact the new books were available and had much more material than the old white book was of little value. He did not mind the cost which would be manageable but his small office simply did not have the time to go through eight books every day. The great value of the white book was that it skimmed off the significant broadcasts and stories from all over the globe. When an item of interest was found, he would get his people to go after the details. He wanted us to know that he would like very much to see the white book revived.


Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director

STAT

cc: DCI
FBIS
DDM&S

Dave's not alone!

DATE: 4 September 1974

TO: EWP

FROM: Jack *Jack*

SUBJECT: Summary of D/FBIS Memo re the FBIS White Book

REMARKS:

Attached is a summary of a rather lengthy response from the D/FBIS to a query from the DCI on the feasibility of issuing a replacement--possibly a one-pager--for the White Book.

In April 1974 FBIS discontinued publication of the White Book--a by-product of the Daily Report which contained a selection of unclassified articles made available to the public. It was discontinued because FBIS was able to de-control all of its area Daily Reports and place them on public sale. 620 copies of the White Book had been distributed gratis, 91 to the news media. Only six expressions of regret were received from the readership; five from newsmen and one from the Exchange and Gifts Division at the Library of Congress. The only plea for revival of the book was from newsman David Kraslow through Angus Thuermer's office.

The D/FBIS feels that, despite the limited reaction to the demise of the White Book, there is a silent majority who would welcome its return. FBIS has looked at two alternate approaches to fill the existing gap:

a. restore a selected, global package of Daily Report reprints similar to the former White Book.

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b. offer a shortcut that would make it easier for readers of the Daily Report to select items of particular interest to them.

A highlights page or the use of asterisks to flag noteworthy items were suggested as shortcuts, but they do not stand up under close examination. Both shortcuts would be prohibitive because of cost, manpower constraints, and duplication of effort. The restoration of the White Book or a facsimile thereof also encounters the problems cited above.

The D/FBIS specifically recommends that they not offer a highlights page or use devices such as asterisks to identify important items. However, he does recommend that FBIS collaborate with PSD and NTIS to resume publication of a revised White Book--provided the Agency places sufficient importance on such a service.

I recommend that we take no action at this time. It is now almost five months since the demise of the White Book and the outcry has been miniscule as stated in [] memo. At this juncture it appears more important to economize on Agency time, money, and manpower expenditures. FBIS saved almost \$54,000 by discontinuing the White Book--than to satisfy a rather select group of readers.

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DDI-2551-74

28 August 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : FBIS White Book

REFERENCE : Memo for DDI from Angus Thuermer dtd 16 Aug 74,
same subject

1. We have looked into ways of restoring some kind of special service to the news media to compensate for loss of the White Book, in response to the referent memorandum and to Mr. Colby's question about the appropriateness of issuing a one-pager calling attention to significant Daily Report items without republishing them. A recommendation is contained in para 10.

2. Background on the White Book:

a. It consisted of some 55 pages distributed gratis in 620 copies, 91 of them to the news media. Where the regular Daily Reports were printed overnight and distributed at the opening of business the next day, the White Book was run off the day after date of issue. It required one man year for printing in PSD and cost \$12,700 annually for paper at March 1974 prices, plus \$41,000 annually for postage and envelopes.

b. It was not a cull of the most significant items. A byproduct of the Daily Report, limited by constraints on copyright materials and printing and collation, it was an expedient selection governed more often by length of items than by their substance. We continued it over the years for want of a better way to make at least some of our unclassified material available to the public.

c. We discontinued the White Book in April of this year when we were finally able to decontrol the full set of area Daily Reports and place them on public sale. We divided the former six volumes into eight, obviating the need to print and distribute hundreds of superfluous pages; by discontinuing the White Book, we also eliminated the printing and

distribution of more than 34,000 duplicate pages each day. The results were a streamlined product better tailored to the needs of Government analysts, more monitored information available to the public, and significant economies both for us and for PSD. Total savings in paper, postage, and envelopes amounted to \$80,400 a year at March 1974 prices. PSD was able to transfer its dayshift White Book man to the nightshift, which made possible the introduction of a new Daily Report production process using paper masters from which readable microfiche can be generated.

3. We received six expressions of regret over the demise of the White Book in February and March after we announced plans for the new configuration (attached). One of these was from the Exchange and Gifts Division at the Library of Congress, which distributed 150 copies to university libraries in the DocEx program. The other five were from newsmen, who declined to subscribe to the full set of Daily Reports on grounds that eight volumes were either too much to read or too costly. They commented more in sorrow than in anger, and none of them has since pressed a case for revival of the White Book. Angus Thuermer's memorandum of 16 August is the first such plea to reach us since the publication was discontinued.

4. Despite this very limited reaction, there is no doubt that the White Book had substantive value to those who have a worldwide interest and limited staff or budget and that a number of Congressmen and college libraries as well as newspapermen would welcome its return. We have looked at two approaches: a) restore a selected, global package of Daily Report reprints or b) offer a shortcut that would make it easier for these readers to locate items of interest to them.

5. The shortcut approach, while attractive at first glance, breaks down under closer examination. The devices that have been suggested are a highlights page identifying the day's most significant items or the asterisking of noteworthy items in the Tables of Contents. A highlights sheet would entail careful selection from some 400 pages of material and capsulizing. This would require at least one full man day's effort we can ill afford. FBIS put out a "pink sheet" of this kind for many years but discontinued it for lack of manpower and subscriber interest. It would inevitably duplicate reporting already available from the news services. Considering the wide range of Daily Report subscribers, we couldn't hope to second-guess our audience on their special interests, either in a highlights sheet or through the use

of asterisks. If we used asterisks, we would start getting requests to flag items on topics of special interest to individual readers, and as the asterisks multiplied they would lose their value as a shortcut. The Tables of Contents are themselves a shortcut to begin with. The principal problem with either device--a high-lights page or asterisks--is that newsmen and other interested parties would still have to subscribe to all eight volumes when it is one economical and manageable package they liked.

6. The only satisfactory way to accommodate these people would be to restore something like the White Book. Given the necessary resources, we could do so. We could provide a better selection now because of the decontrol of press agency material that couldn't be included before.

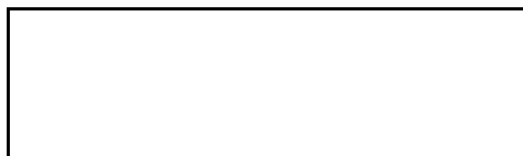
7. PSD would need an additional pressman to run off a ninth volume. As you know, it is looking for slots to handle present FBIS printing in house. The suggestion has been made that as a tradeoff we eliminate one area volume by recombining two of the books we separated in April, but that would mean reverting to the wasteful printing and distribution of hundreds of pages to area analysts who don't need them and cancelling out the economies and improvements in service which our new configuration has achieved. Unless a CIA/FBIS service to the press is judged sufficiently important to provide PSD with additional resources, we can for all practical purposes rule out the use of PSD facilities.

8. An alternative would be to mount a limited service using JPRS printing facilities: earmark selected Daily Report pages of potential interest to the press, create plates on FBIS premises from the paper masters on which the pages are typed, and send the plates to JPRS for reproduction and binding under a special Daily Report cover. A software program could be developed for selecting and assembling the items after automation. JPRS could print and assemble up to 40 pages in 120 copies the day after date of publication, using present manpower and without detriment to other services. Estimated costs to FBIS would be \$143 per copy annually if we provided the package gratis by direct mail or \$22 per copy annually if we disseminated it through NTIS, which would probably charge \$125 to cover its costs. But we would have to stay within the 120 copy limit.

9. We would under no circumstances wish to get back into the morass of direct gratis distribution from which we have finally managed to extricate ourselves. Were we to start handing out a new

package to a limited number of favored recipients, the word would get around to former White Book users who now buy the area Daily Reports, and they would have a legitimate grievance. We would end up cancelling out most of the goodwill we have set out to create. DocEx would be certain to ask for restoration of its 150 copies, which alone would exceed the JPRS printshop's ceiling of 120. Placing the volume on sale through NTIS would obviate these problems but could well create a demand that JPRS would be unable to meet without either curtailing other production or taking on more contract personnel. Drawing the line would not be easy.

10. I recommend that we not create a one-pager calling attention to significant items or use such devices as asterisks to further identify important items, but rather that we collaborate with PSD and NTIS to resume publication of a better White Book--provided the Agency places sufficient importance on such a service to the media, the Congress, academia and other possible recipients to provide PSD with the necessary resources to do the job.



Director

Foreign Broadcast Information Service

Attachments:

As stated

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DAILY LOG NOTES, L&R OFFICERS, 22 June 1973

STAT

(ADMIN-INTERNAL USE ONLY) [] At the suggestion of [] I touched STAT base today by telephone with two offices in the Library of Congress to apprise them of FBIS' plan to place three more area DAILY REPORTS on sale through NTIS and to discontinue publication of the White Book. I spoke first with Catherine Gould in the Reading Room (426-5693), where the currently classified DAILY REPORTS are retained behind a barrier. She was happy to hear of the decision to place all of the books on sale and said that it would ease the burden on her office. She said she would need no memorandum, but would appreciate a call when we know the precise date of the changeover to a sale system. The only possible problem she could anticipate was for the section at the Library which has been microfilming the White Book; she said that with the discontinuance of that volume there would be a need to microfilm all six area books. She said she would discuss this problem with the filming section.

I then called DocEx and spoke to a Mr. Draughon (426-5251). He said that while he could not speak for his chief, his initial reaction to discontinuance of the White Book was one of disappointment, largely because inclusion of that publication in the DocEx package made the package so attractive to libraries. He suggested that FBIS send a formal notice to DocEx (addressed to Nathan Einhorn, Chief, Exchange and Gifts Div.) explaining the decision. DocEx for its part, he added, could then alert libraries and other recipients to the fact that the White Book is being discontinued and that six area books are available by subscription through NTIS. (cc: O/Dir., C/PETF, C/Pubs, Lib. of Cong. Lia.)

The White Book is a damned handy thing to have; unfortunately, the price is just a bit beyond the resources of a working journalist. By means of appreciation, I do want to thank FBIS for keeping me on the mailing list for 10 so many years -- I've made frequent use of the service, and think it is valuable.

jcg/2-6-74

Foreign Broadcast Information Service
Liaison & Requirements Office

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Dear

In response to your recent letter outlining FBIS plans to restructure its Daily Report my wishes are:

- ☒ I do not want to continue to receive copies of the Daily Report under the new arrangements that will become effective about 1 April.

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ payable to NFIS for the following subscriptions to the Daily Report.

- ☐ Soviet Union
☐ Eastern Europe
☐ People's Republic of China
☐ Latin America
☐ Western Europe
☐ Middle East & North Africa
☐ Sub-Saharan Africa
☐ Asia & Pacific

JOSEPH C. GOULDEN

Name

STAT

Signed

Joseph C. Goulden

February 6, 1974

Date

Address

TRISTRAM COFFIN

February 9, 1974

STAT Dear

I am sorry to learn that the "White Book" will no longer be published. It gave a good, broad look at the world, and gave the news another dimension.

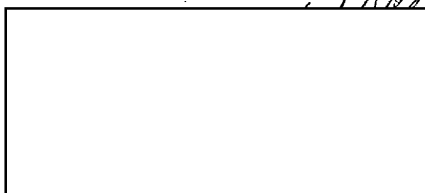
I am afraid that the eight separate regional volumes is just too much. I would feel deluged and sinking, at trying to read them. And I cannot think of any one area that I prefer.

There must be a great many persons, like myself, would gladly subscribe to a general daily report, tailored to note areas of importance. As, for example, I would have appreciated getting excerpts from the Arab and Israeli press since October, and, as the oil crisis deepened, notes from Japan and West Europe.

I will miss your service, for I have followed it ever since its beginnings back in World War II.

Sincerely,

Tristram Coffin



*Copy sent to ABCI,
for his information*

ARTHUR V. MEIGS

STAT

February 12, 1974.

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STAT
Mr. [redacted]
Liaison and Requirements Officer
[redacted]
Washington, D. C. 20013

Dear [redacted]

May I express gratitude for the Foreign Broadcast Information Service over the years? It has been most informative, especially it seems to me most recently. I am sorry you are discontinuing the "White Book".

[
Enclosed is blank with X marked indicating we will have to let our subscription lapse when you discontinue the one-volume summaries in April, rather than subscribe for one or more of the area services at \$125 or \$70 or \$30. The cost of the subscription and the undoubtedly vast amount of material, more than we can handle, constitute our reasons.

If there was a possibility of the summary being continued or resumed, gratis or at a fee, we would appreciate knowing about it. Meanwhile our thanks again for a very fine service.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur V. Meigs
Arthur V. Meigs

Excerpts From Daily Log Notes, L&R Officer, 13 February 1974

1. (ADMIN - INT USE ONLY) [] I sent on to [] in OLC today a package of Soviet Defense Minister Grechko's public statements in September-October 1973, pulled together by AG. [] had called me yesterday asking for Grechko's remarks in that period on the Middle East situation on behalf of David Martin on the staff of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. [] said he felt we should not do any undue research on the request, and I suggested copies from the Grechko speech file for Martin to peruse. He said he felt such a package would suffice. (cc: O/Director, C/RMS, C/AG, Cong. Lia)

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3. (ADMIN INT USE ONLY) Jerry Hannifin, TIME bureau in Washington, called with some comments on the WHITE BOOK. For his purposes and area interests--Latin America and the Soviet Union--"it's awfully damn good." He cited a recent TIME piece on Brezhnev's visit to Cuba as using the "color" provided by the FBIS item: "Where else could you get the type of plane he arrived in and Cuban estimates of the crowd greeting Brezhnev?" Hannifin said that he would write an "even-keeled note" to Angus Thuermer about the demise of the WHITE BOOK and how "working reporters" would sorely miss it. (cc: O/Director, C/RMS, C/Ops, C/DRD, ADCI-Thuermer, Press Lia.)

4. (ADMIN INT USE ONLY) Bob Upchurch, AEC, (Code 119-3355) queried whether FBIS had anything on the "abnormal functioning" or "perhaps an accident" that may have occurred about a week or ten days ago at the Shevchenko Nuclear Power Station on the Caspian Sea. According to Upchurch, "certain reports have got us quite excited about this." A check will be made by [] DRD, for anything untoward in their respective areas. ELAD and AAD will keep an eye on Western European and Middle East reporting. (cc: O/Director C/RMS, C/Ops, C/DRD, C/Prod, C/UD, C/ELAD, C/AAD, US Govt Lia.)

STAT

The Washington Post

1150 15TH STREET, N.W. 223-6000

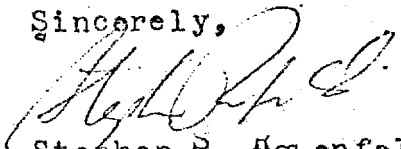
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

March 29, 1974

Gentlemen:

Don't stop publishing the "White Book. To go through the area books is simply impossible. The White Book is not duplicative, it's unique. I am sure that enough White Book readers feel this way to make it worth continuing.

Sincerely,


Stephen S. Rosenfeld

DCI/DDCI

Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	LC		
2	DDCI			12	IG		
3	S/MC			13	Compt		
4	DDS&T			14	Asst/DCI		
5	DDI			15	AO/DCI		
6	DDM&S			16	Ex/Sec		
7	DDO			17			
8	D/DCI/IC			18			
9	D/DCI/NIO			19			
10	GC			20			

SUSPENSE

Date

Remarks:

Would it be appropriate to issue a one-pager (or so) merely calling attention to more significant items, but not republishing them? —

[Signature]

DCI/DDCI

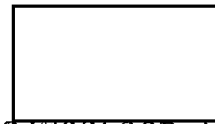
5/19/74

16 August 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
SUBJECT : FBIS White Book

David Kraslow, formerly managing editor of the *Washington Star*, now chief of Cox Newspapers Washington bureau, called yesterday about discontinuance of the FBIS white book. He said he had just become aware the white book was no longer being produced and circulated to newsmen, and he wanted us to know he greatly missed it.

He said the fact the new books were available and had much more material than the old white book was of little value. He did not mind the cost which would be manageable but his small office simply did not have the time to go through eight books every day. The great value of the white book was that it skimmed off the significant broadcasts and stories from all over the globe. When an item of interest was found, he would get his people to go after the details. He wanted us to know that he would like very much to see the white book revived.



Angus MacLean Inuermer
Assistant to the Director

STAT

cc: DCI
FBIS
DDM&S

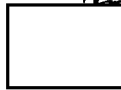
Dave's not alone!

MEMORANDUM FOR: Messrs. ~~Proctor/Walsh~~

file FBIS

FYI.

NL (2)



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send copy
of 5 Sept memo
+ collimate
to FBIS.
EWP*

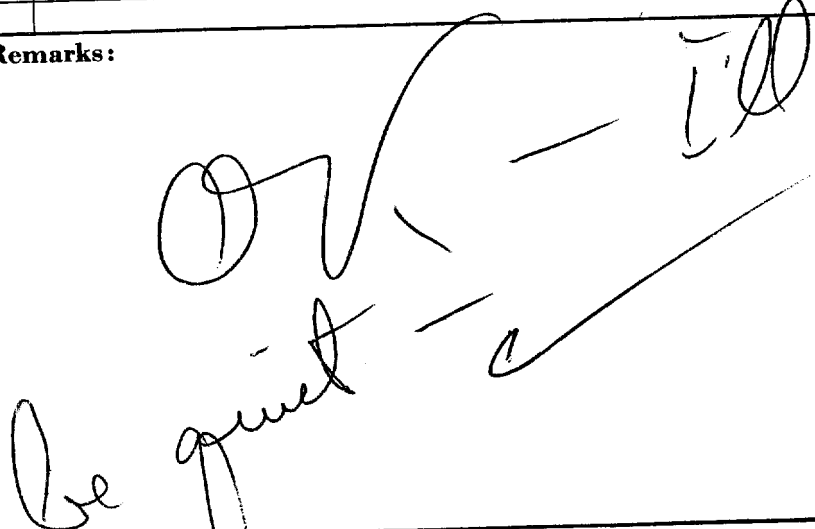
*Done
9/23/74
fm*

23 Sep 74
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

Approved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000700020015-0

UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS			DATE	INITIALS
1	Director			9/21/74	
2	DDI				
3					
4					
5					
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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	
Remarks:					
					
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER					
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.					DATE
Director, Directorate for Intelligence					5 Sept
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	

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Approved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP80B01495R000700020015-0
 DCI/D^{CI}
 Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	LC		
2	DDCI			12	IG		
3	S/MC			13	Compt		
4	DDS&T			14	Asst/DCI		
5	DDI	✓		15	AO/DCI		
6	DDM&S			16	Ex/Sec		
7	DDO			17			
8	D/DCI/IC			18			
9	D/DCI/NIO			19			
10	GC			20			

SUSPENSE _____

Date

Remarks:

Would it be appropriate to issue a one-pager (or so) merely calling attention to more significant items, but not republishing them? -

[Signature]

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FBIS White Book

FROM:

Director, Foreign Broadcast
Information Service

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

28 August 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1. Deputy Director for
Intelligence

2. Room 7E 44, Hdqs.

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Eup

This is not the simple answer to Bill Colby's question that you were looking for, but as we looked into the situation it became clear that there is no simple answer. FBIS could put out a selected world book which would be both useful and economical and which the Agency could take much pride in, but FBIS is not in a position to judge whether it would be worth the cost.

Would you want us to consult Thuermer and on this?

Director, FBIS